

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS



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AGRICULTURAL
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SERVICE

For Week Ending July 23, 2000

Issue: 21-2000

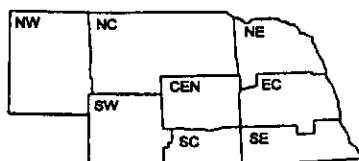
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National Agricultural Statistics Service
U S Department of Agriculture
and U S Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admn.
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
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WEATHER

Temperatures for the State averaged four to nine degrees below normals for the week. Precipitation occurred across the State with amounts ranging from traces to over two inches.

GENERAL

Cooler temperatures along with scattered showers last week helped crops under drought stress but slowed wheat harvest, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Growing crops will continue to require timely rains to ensure proper development through maturity. Producers continued to use irrigation systems according to crop need, water availability, and fuel costs. Producer activities also included moving grain to market, harvesting hay and oats, and livestock care.

CROPS

The winter wheat harvest slowed last week but neared completion as 97% of the acreage has been cut to date, compared with 87% last year and 72% for the 5-year average.

Corn condition rated 9% very poor, 15% poor, 26% fair, 37% good, and 13% excellent. Irrigated corn at 65% good to excellent and dryland corn at 27% good to excellent were virtually unchanged from last week. Seventy-two percent of the crop was in or beyond the silking stage, ahead of last year's 61% and the average at 48%. Reports indicated that 8% of the crop had reached the dough stage, this compared with 3% last year and 1% average.

CROPS Cont.

Soybean condition declined and rated 9% very poor, 15% poor, 30% fair, 33% good, and 13% excellent. Blooming had occurred on 77% of the crop acreage as of Sunday, ahead of 65% last year and 54% average. By week's end, 27% had set pods, compared to 12% last year and 7% average.

Sorghum condition rated 8% very poor, 15% poor, 33% fair, 33% good, and 11% excellent. The crop was 22% headed as of Sunday, well ahead of 9% last year and 5% average.

Oat harvest was 78% complete and compares with 55% last year and 49% average.

Dry bean condition showed virtually no change from last week with 44% rated good to excellent. About 73% of the crop had bloomed by week's end, ahead of last year at 52% and the average at 39%.

Alfalfa harvest of the second cutting progressed to 95% complete, compared to 84% last year and 73% average. Third cutting activities were underway in most areas of the State. Condition of the crop declined and rated 18% very poor, 30% poor, 30% fair, 20% good, and 2% excellent. Wild hay condition rated 21% very poor, 30% poor, 30% fair, 15% good, and 4% excellent.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition declined and rated 38% very poor, 34% poor, 21% fair, and 7% good. Most pastures remained in a drought state and can provide, at best, limited grass regrowth. Some producers continued to move cattle around, provide supplemental hay and/or protein, or move cattle to market.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF JULY 23, 2000		AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
		NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
PERCENT													
% Corn Silked		15	60	73	71	81	49	76	82	72	46	61	48
% Corn Dough		0	0	7	15	7	0	11	21	8	5	3	1
% Wheat Harvested		91	95	98	92	99	99	100	99	97	95	87	72
% Soybeans Blooming		n/a	76	79	60	80	33	53	87	77	61	65	54
% Soybeans Setting Pods		n/a	20	14	40	17	5	37	54	27	15	12	7
% Sorghum Headed		n/a	5	29	12	38	0	1	39	22	14	9	5
% Dry Beans Blooming		80	85	42	57	45	54	50	47	73	59	52	39
% Alfalfa Second Cutting		90	94	96	94	92	96	96	96	95	81	84	73
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF JULY 21, 2000													
Days Suitable		30	70	67	68	49	68	38	49	58	66	54	
Topsoil Moisture	- Very short	55	45	37	38	23	69	12	11	33	38	2	
	- Short	38	42	37	39	46	20	25	35	36	36	33	
	- Adequate	7	13	25	23	30	11	58	54	30	26	61	
	- Surplus	0	0	1	0	1	0	5	0	1	0	4	
Subsoil Moisture-	- Very Short	13	56	36	70	55	82	31	70	53	48	1	
	- Short	51	36	44	30	39	17	35	22	32	37	18	
	- Adequate	36	8	19	0	6	1	30	8	14	15	81	
	- Surplus	0	0	1	0	0	0	4	0	1	0	0	

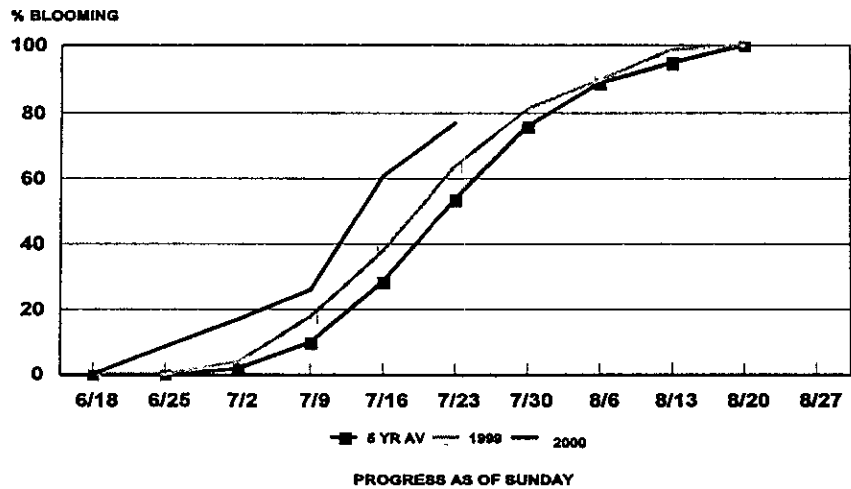
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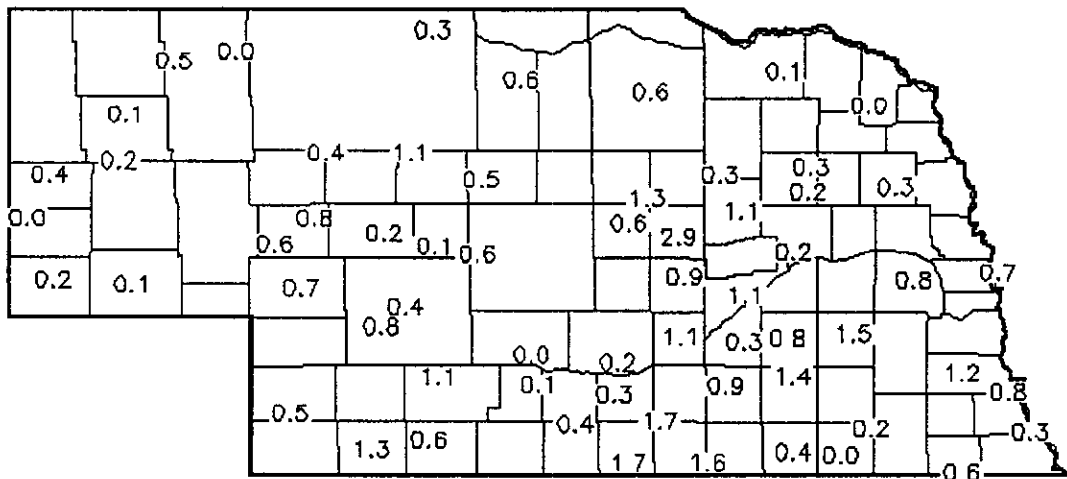
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SOYBEANS BLOOMING



PRECIPITATION IN INCHES FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 23, 2000



Source High Plains Climate Center

PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - JULY 23, 2000

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week65	.62	.28	1.05	1.60	.73	2.62	1.14
Total since April 1	9.25	10.16	13.87	9.57	13.33	5.31	12.36	11.96
Normal since April 1	9.53	11.23	12.68	12.37	13.47	10.69	12.17	13.55
Total as % of normal	97%	90%	109%	77%	99%	50%	102%	88%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JULY 23, 2000

Station		Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	90	48	69	---	.09	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	92	51	70	-5	.17	139	1520	1405
	Sidney	92	52	70	---	.26	134	1489	1440
NC	Valentine	83	48	66	-9	.29	---	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	135	1476	1515
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	134	1546	1624
NE	Norfolk	85	50	69	-7	.08	---	---	---
	Sioux City	85	48	67	-9	.03	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	107	1606	1666
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	125	1598	1666
CEN	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	115	1675	1762
	Grand Island	89	59	70	-7	2.37	141	1737	1687
	Ord	89	55	71	---	.47	151	1662	1673
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	137	1702	1668
EC	Lincoln	84	58	71	-8	1.61	141	1879	1851
	Omaha	84	55	69	-8	2.08	---	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	135	1728	1714
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	127	1764	1825
SW	Imperial	94	52	72	---	1.10	---	---	---
	North Platte	93	53	71	-4	.55	142	1661	1570
	Curtis	---	---	---	---	---	147	1699	1597
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	150	1698	1655
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	171	1942	1708
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	148	1846	1851
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	135	1713	1704

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is Max temp. + min temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln N/A = not available.